



**1132nd meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**
7:30PM Wednesday August 25, 2010
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California

**1898 Semi-Centennial of the
Discovery of Gold in California**
Bill Hyder

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
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Please join us August 25, 2010 to hear Bill Hyder tell us about the exonomia of the 1898 Semi-Centennial of the Discovery of Gold in California.

1131th meeting July 28, 2010. Jesuit Medals Sal Falcone

(reviewed by Herb) Whalen, a fellow graduate of Santa Clara University, introduced our Speaker, Sal Falcone and his wife Barbara, currently of San Jose. Sal, Barbara, and son Vince run a thriving coin shop in San Jose are frequent features at local coin shows.

Sal graciously agreed to speak to us about one of his favorite collecting areas, Jesuit Medals from Santa Clara University and from other areas of the world. Some of his examples were made in San Francisco and others were struck in Rome. Per Sal, the Jesuits are well known for aggressive proselytizing and consequently have been politely asked to leave many different countries around the world because of their deep faith and attempts to convert others. Wherever they have lived, they have established fine educational institutions and some of these institutions have issued medals.

Sal's collection is small but all pieces are magnificent, with wonderful detail and high relief sculpting on many. Medals apparently were awarded to graduates or other deserving individuals for honors in their respective fields. However, since there are so few, it is speculated that the recipient might have had to purchase the medal from the source, the University Bookstore or other establishment!

Not part of Sal's talk, but equally interesting was a life saving medal from San Francisco-Oakland, awarded to a Mr. Bozzo, for saving a number of people who were tossed into San Francisco Bay when a pier on which they were standing collapsed. Mr. Bozzo helped save upwards of 30 individuals and was awarded a large gold medal by the San Francisco Oakland Railroad Company. It is inscribed with his name and date of his actions (July 4, 1868) on one side and a beautifully done Angel of mercy on the other. It seems to be signed by the artist, whose initials resemble the sails of a Clipper ship (eagle-eye Steve noticed this feature)!

July 2010 Exhibits

Mark brought a magnificent San Francisco 1984 Midwinter piece featuring a ribbon-hung gild medal with bear and intricate design.

Stephen brought a copy of the cover of a first edition Blue Book that has PCNS inscribed in gold on the cover. Apparently a question had come to Steve requesting information on this book, but he could only surmise that perhaps this was a copy given to numismatic clubs and societies who had helped with editorial content for the book since it was not the type of material that PCNS routinely kept in its library. However, if anyone else has additional information, Steve and all of PCNS would like to receive it.

Catz brought a nice PPIE \$2.50 commemorative coin, a nice gold example encapsulated by ICG. I believe, of course not one of the \$50 coins! Too bad Katz!

Bill exhibited two So-called dollars, both from the 1894 Midwinter Fair, one the common bronze or brass H&K 245a, but the other an unlisted aluminum version of the same piece, and with inspection probably struck from the same dies as the common piece.

Jerry brought another box of his goodies to share and sell to the membership, tokens and coins from around the world, and also brought several copies of his newest book on Chinese inscriptions on tokens of the West Coast.

Herb brought two items, one a Jesuit Medal from St. John's College (in New York probably) sold at the meeting to Sal to add to his collection of medals, and a sterling "shell" featuring a likeness of Michelangelo's "La Pieta" sculpture.

Dan brought a 1930 Icelandic 3 coin or medal set, he believes coins since they are denominated in Kronurs, the currency of Iceland, commemorating 1000 years of Acthing! The larger piece features the early Parliament location of Iceland, a rocky shore where the lawmakers would stand to debate and pass laws. Dan mentioned that Iceland holds the distinction of meeting as a lawmaking body for more than 1000 years and in fact, the rocky shore where Parliament met became the source

of the stones used to build the current building in Reykeyvik where Parliament still meets!

Federico exhibited two "sheep shearing" tokens from Texas, adding to his collection of tokens with Hispanic names.

Whalen also brought his PPIE \$2.50 gold piece as well as the PPIE \$0.50 and the \$1.00, all very nice although the \$2.50 has a scratch.

Michael showed off some consignments he recently received, 4 Jesuit medals in silver from St. Ignatius College (now University of San Francisco), one dated 1904 is a smaller exactly similar copy to one in Sal's collection and featured in his talk.!

July 2010 Raffle (raised \$50)

Book: Coins of the Comstock	Whalen
1984 U.S. Mint St	Schimmel
Grouping of Newfoundland Coins	Sal
Brasher Doubloon Jigsaw Puzzle	Jim
PPIE Postcards	Whalen

Special Meeting at the Old Mint Coin Show!

Scott Griffin, the organizer of the new coin show at the old mint has graciously offered the Society meeting space. The date will be Saturday, September 18, the time to be determined. Stay tuned for details or just come to the show and check the schedule. Note that the regular September meeting will still be held at Ft. Mason on the 22nd.